

**CENTRAL PUGET SOUND FREEWAY HOV LANES VARIABLE HOURS
OF OPERATION EVALUATION**

BRIEFING PAPER

Prepared for the
June 2002 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

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PURPOSE:

Update the Commission on the Central Puget Sound Freeway HOV Lanes Variable Hours of Operations Evaluation.

ACTION/OUTCOME:

Brief the Commission on study progress and provide final three chapters of HOV Evaluation Notebook. These chapters cover environmental undertakings, facility design and operational limitations, and public attitudes. The Commission will also be briefed on the change options matrix developed at this point in the study work plan.

BACKGROUND:

In February 2002, the Secretary and the Commissioners received a letter from the House Transportation Committee asking them to explore our policies on hours of operation for HOV lanes on central Puget Sound region freeways.

At its March meeting the Commission endorsed the work plan for conducting the evaluation.

At the May meeting the department reported on data collection and analysis activities and communication tools designed to assist the public with understanding the evaluation process and provide input on the study.

DISCUSSION:

At the June meeting, staff is expected to complete the initial analytic aspects of the analysis by presenting environmental undertakings, facility design and operational limitation and public attitudes data. Staff will also present the "Change Options Matrix" required by the work plan. The desired outcome will be that after discussion and with refinements the Commission may suggest, the Change Options Matrix will be completed and make the basis for soliciting public and stakeholder comments and developing a recommendation for the Commission to be presented at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the definition of change options and plan for completing the HOV Evaluation.

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